

Docket No.: 50099-180

AF *efw*
PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
Shigenobu MAEDA, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 8927
Application No.: 09/988,593	:	Group Art Unit: 2823
Filed: November 20, 2001	:	Examiner: Pham, Thanh V.
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING IMPURITY REGION UNDER ISOLATION REGION (As Amended)	:	

SUMMARY OF EXAMINER INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following remarks are submitted with regard to an Examiner Interview conducted on November 10, 2004, during which Examiner Pham and Applicants' respective, the undersigned, participated.

REMARKS

On November 3, 2004, an Examiner's Answer was issued in response to the Appeal Brief filed November 4, 2003. However, as noted during the interview, an Examiner's Answer was previously issued by the Patent Office on December 23, 2003, and a Reply Brief in response to

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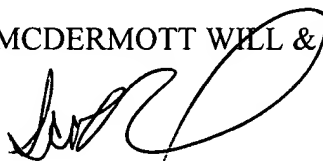
this first Examiner's Answer was filed on February 20, 2004. Furthermore, the second Examiner's Answer is identical to the first Examiner's Answer.

In response to Applicants' query regarding this second Examiner's Answer, the Examiner stated that the signature page on page 6 of the first Examiner's Answer was not signed by any of the Examiners that reviewed the Appeal Brief, and the second Examiner's Answer was issued solely to correct this oversight by the Patent Office. The Examiner also stated that a response to the second Examiner's Answer is not needed.

Applicants request that disposition of the Appeal Brief be expedited if, as a result the aforementioned oversight by the Patent Office, the consideration of the Appeal Brief has been delayed.

Respectfully submitted,

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as our correspondence address.**